

NorCal Sheltie Rescue

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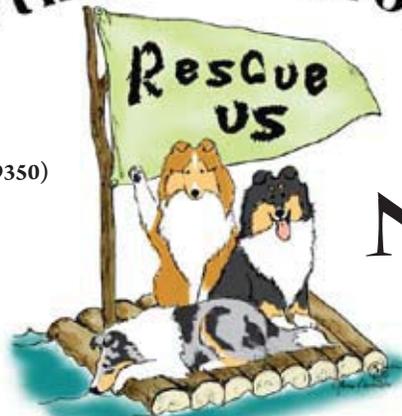
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Northern California



Sheltie Rescue

Shetland Sheepdog Companions of Northern California Rescue, Inc.
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NorCal Sheltie Rescue, Inc.

Newsletter Autumn 2012

NorCal Sheltie Rescue Newsletters in a black-and-white version are mailed out via US mail to our donors, veterinary offices, and special friends like Norcal Collie Rescue. We will also mail copies to those who request them, and we hand newsletters out at public events to those who are interested in learning about our mission. Newsletters are available on-line (<http://www.norcalsheltierescue.org/Newsletters.html>) in a glorious, four-color version that can be downloaded and shared. Please share the Newsletter with other Sheltie lovers and tell them to contact us if they would like us to include them on either our e-mail and/or snail-mail mailing lists.

Sheltie Rescue's 2012

Rescue Magic...or "Things happen for a reason"

In the world of rescue there are often strange coincidences. There is no doubt in any of our minds that some of the Shelties choose their own families and that all we do is play a facilitator role. It is the magic of a perfect match, and it's easy to recognize when it happens, though it is only one phase of the magic that sometimes happens in our world of rescue. The story below might just be the lead article for a book on the subject of Rescue Magic: Four heartworm-positive boys pulled from a Shelter, followed by a strange coincidence that cropped up during a random match selection, and it turns out all six Shelties are related. One of our core volunteers, Karen Porter, tells her version of the story, followed by the story of the four heartworm-positive boys.

—The Editor



Daisy came to me as an owner surrender. One of her humans was terminally ill and the other was going into an Alzheimer's care home. The relatives were too busy to devote much time to her. When Daisy first arrived, she was scared and nervous but seemed to have a gentle soul. Her first days here were very tentative, but I was pleasantly surprised when she accepted my dogs and they accepted her. After a short period, I began looking at prospective adopters. One special couple, Anita and Bob, had recently euthanized their older Sheltie; their younger dog, Robbie, was lonely and they thought another companion would be good for him. This couple agreed to come out and meet Daisy, and they brought Robbie along. When they walked in the front door, it struck us how much Daisy looked like Robbie. They fell for Daisy right away and decided to adopt her.

The story could have ended there, but it gets better. The new owners were confused about Robbie's birthday; they thought he was born in 2005. When Anita found out Daisy's birthday, she laughed and said "Wow, that's Robbie's birthday, just a few years different." When Anita got home and looked at Robbie's paperwork, she realized she was off by two years and that the two dogs actually shared their birthday. So she emailed me and asked, "What do you think the odds are that they are actually siblings?" She knew where she got Robbie, but we didn't know where Daisy came from other than that she was bought from a breeder somewhere in California. I was able to connect with the daughter of the previous owner, who confirmed the location of the breeder and said there were at least six or seven puppies in Daisy's litter. She thought Daisy was about 5.5 months old at the time. Robbie was purchased from this same breeder, but not until he was 18 months old. He had lived his entire life in a crate and was only allowed out to potty and then was put straight back into his crate. Anita and Bob have worked wonders with him and, though still a very shy sheltie, he has come a long way.

Now the story gets even better since Jack, the person who came out to do the home check for Anita and Bob, was himself fostering two, two-year-old, heartworm-positive dogs who had been turned in to the shelter by a local breeder along with two other dogs, one a brother and the other the dad to the puppies. So it turns out that their dad (Toby) is also Robbie and Daisy's brother. We just couldn't believe we had figured it all out and that they are truly siblings. What are the odds of all of this falling into place and

Robbie and Daisy being able to spend the rest of their lives together happily under the care of such wonderful adopters?? The true icing on the cake is that Bob and Anita have had shelties for about 35 years, and their very first sheltie was named ... you guessed it, "Daisy"! Sometimes the stars and planets align to get things like this to happen. It couldn't have happened to any nicer folks, and I'm just happy I was able to be a part of this magical coincidence.

—Karen Porter



In late March we took in four Shelties from the Nevada County Animal Control. Toby, the dad, age 5, and his three sons Tim, Beau, and Rocky, age 2. Sadly, all four intact males tested positive for heartworm disease. We were very fortunate to find three loving foster homes with Jack & Pat (Tim & Beau), Charlene & Bob (Rocky), and Susan (Toby). The foster families were committed to nurturing the boys through their treatment and recovery. All the dogs except Toby have been adopted, and we expect that he'll find his new home very soon. Special thanks to the Shetland Sheepdog Club of Northern California Board of Directors for their very generous donation to assist with veterinary expenses.

Our participation began when my wife Pat and I were asked to foster a two-year-old, heartworm-positive Sheltie. Tim was one of five turned in to the Nevada County Animal Shelter run by Sammie's Friends. We knew heartworm could be dangerous, even fatal for the dogs, but the more we learned the more worried we became. Timmy's journey began with our first trip to our vet. We learned the complete treatment would take four months. Concerned about the extent of the heartworm involvement, we had our vet x-ray Timmy's chest. We were relieved to learn Timmy did not reveal a heavy involvement of heartworm; however, his treatment would follow the same protocol.

Five days after picking up Timmy, we got a call to pick up a second sibling, Rocky, who was also heartworm positive. They both began their treatment with 30 days of an antibiotic, 200 mg. Augmentin, to kill the bacteria living on the heartworms. We also began keeping both dogs as quiet as possible. This would have been easier had we not had two Shelties of our own at home, 4-year-old Allie and 2-year-old Tony. We were relieved to learn that Allie and Tony were adequately protected from heartworm worries by their monthly doses of Interceptor.

During this first 30-day period, Rocky was placed with other loving foster parents, and a couple of weeks later we were asked to pick up another one of the siblings, Beau. Beau was also heartworm positive, and his antibiotic treatment had already been started by another vet following the same protocol.

After their first 30-day interval, they received their first injection of Immiticide to kill the male heartworms. It was now imperative to keep the Shelties quiet without any exercise or play, keeping them crated, and taking them out to potty on leash. Their heart rates and respirations were not to elevate. They were also given prescriptions for 25mg Rimadyl and 10mg prednisone for pain, inflammation, and cough.

After this second period of 30 days, 60 days into treatment, they were given a second dose of Immiticide and a day later their third dose of Immiticide. These two doses were to kill the heartier female heartworms. This was a very critical time period in their treatment and even more critical at six to eight weeks following these two injections of Immiticide. The dying heartworms circulate in the bloodstream, which can cause stroke, heart attack, or pneumonia by the backing up of blood or fluids. It was after the third injection that both dogs developed coughs, and Timmy began coughing up blood. Timmy had to spend the next week in his crate, taking 10mg of prednisone morning and night. Toby, their father, developed severe pneumonia during this same period and was hospitalized for several days.

Whew! After getting through this very critical time period and at 90 days after their Immiticide treatments began, Beau and Timmy along with Rocky and their father Toby were showing improvements in their health and were able to begin supervised activity. This whole treatment protocol takes 120 days from

initial treatment to health and happiness. It is long and trying, but well worth the efforts. The happy ending is that all four wonderful Shelties have been or are now being adopted into loving

Sheltie Health

Animal Poison Control Hotline, the best resource for any animal poison-related emergency, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year: http://www.aspcaproapc.org/site/PageServer?pagename=aspcaproapc_landing The toll-free number is: 888-426-4435 (a consultation fee may apply).

Accidental dog poisoning is on the rise

Veterinarians are seeing a spike in accidental rodenticide poisonings among dogs. See http://www.news.ucdavis.edu/search/news_detail.lasso?id=10337. One of our very own, Rosie, adopted by Angela is among those recently lost to rat poison.

Also, for those of you who are or who know home-brew fans, it turns out that hops is exceedingly toxic to dogs. The obedience champion/Delta Pet Partners Therapy dog of one of our local CPDT trainers got into hops that her son was using for his home brew and died before they realized what had happened.

Living with Cancer

Roger and Susan's beloved Shelly joined the ranks of the far-too-many dogs who have been discovered to have cancer. Shelly's story has a happy ending, and when Roger shared the experience with us, it led me to ask: "What advice would you have for other Sheltie owners who might have to go through what you have been through?" "What did you learn about canine cancers in general and lymphoma in particular in going through this with Shelly?" and "What did you learn about your vets, yourselves, and about your heart dog during the last months?" Underscoring what Roger has written below, *The Whole Dog Journal* adds: "Anytime there's a significant behavior change in an adult dog it's important to rule out—or treat—any possible medical contributors to the undesirable behavior."



Roger wrote: "It all started with "how well do you know your furkid? One night I noticed that Shelly paced all night long. So the next day, off to the vet; blood tests were ordered and revealed she had lymphoma. We were devastated. We got the name of an oncologist and made an appointment. He started Shelly on chemotherapy. A couple days later we had to take her to emergency services; she had gone downhill fast because of the chemotherapy. The oncologist started treating Shelly in the ICU, giving her IV's, more chemotherapy, and oxygen. This lasted for days, and when she was released to us at home, her breathing got worse, so back to emergency we went. It was determined that she had a mass in her chest pressing against her lungs, so they started treatment for that. Once the mass started to dissolve, it put fluid in her chest cavity. We finally got that under control, but her breathing was still an issue. As Shelly's parents, we felt that she was going downhill in the ICU, so we decided it was time to take her home on oxygen and give her the surroundings where she was happiest. One of the vets was concerned that we were making a mistake by taking her home. Today that vet agrees that it was the best decision for Shelly because, as it turned out, we were correct: once home, she got better and one day she took her paw and removed the oxygen tube and started breathing on her own.

It has been two months since we started the cancer journey with Shelly, and many more months of improvement lie ahead, but we would do it all over again. Shelly spent a total of ten

homes. We are lucky to have been blessed with Beau, now called Bear, who we adopted because he is such a big teddy bear.

—*Sheltie lover forever, Jack Hutchison*

nights in the ICU. We drove from home to the vet clinic twice a day to visit and feed her, as she would not always eat for them. This whole experience was very hard on us; worry about Shelly occupied our minds constantly. What was the right thing to do, treat her and see what happened, or not treat her? For us the only decision was to treat her, since our hearts told us that she would come through it. We had faith that we caught things early enough. Encouragement from the doctors and, above all, Shelly's little face looking up at us helped us make the right decision. After a lot of prayers, worrying, and crying, we have her back. She is still not 100 percent of what she was before; time will tell if we get all of her back. To us none of this matters, for she looks up at us with her beautiful brown eyes that say thanks for giving me more time to make us all happy.

What did we learn from this experience?

Noticing differences in a dog's behavior, eating habits, play, interacting with other dogs or people is most important. Changes could be the first signs of an illness or . . . ?

Cancer treatment is very hard on everyone going through it, both people and animals. Shelly's was one of the easier cancers to treat, but as with any cancer, if caught early enough, it can be treated. Some cancers are noticeable as lumps, some are inside the body and are hard to detect without a blood test, which is why we say "how well do you know your pet?" Lymphoma affects the lymph nodes and does not show up as visual lumps or lumps you can feel unless you know where they are located and

know how to feel for them. Not all swollen lymph nodes mean cancer; it can be an infection, and the only way to tell for sure is a blood test. Had we not noticed Shelly acting differently and taken her to the vet, she would not be here today.

Support is critical: The vets who treated Shelly were excellent. They cared about their patients as if they were their own furkids. We cannot say enough about the entire staff, doctors, vet assistants, their ICU unit and the people working in it. They were always willing to explain options and treatment plans, give updates, and prepare us for next steps. Trust is a must, and we trusted this team with Shelly's life. The only advice we can give is to talk to friends, people that know the breed, and the doctors. According to our oncologist, Shelties react differently than other breeds. Make sure the treating vet knows your breed of dog given that not all breeds can be treated in the same way or with the same drugs.

We learned the true depth of how much we love our dog. There was never a moment during the treatment period where we were willing to give up and let her go to the Bridge. We hoped and prayed; the three doctors, vet techs and ICU staff's words/reports on how she was doing helped us make the decision to keep going. Had things gone downhill, we were prepared to

make that decision also. It was touch and go, but we knew in our hearts that if she got better and came home, she would improve. Everyone agrees today that going home was the best decision for Shelly.

Shelly had the will to live; you could see it, and she never gave up. One could say it's the will to live in all living things as dogs live in the moment. But we feel that if she had given up, she would have told us in her own way. Through all the IV's, oxygen, pills, shots, poking and prodding, she was very calm and let them do anything. That was an indicator to us she wanted to get better. The entire staff could not believe how calm she was. She is our little miracle.

What, if anything would we do differently?

This is a tough one. If the cancer was not curable/treatable we would have let her live her life out at home making her as comfortable as possible without treatment. Would we do it again? Yes, if there is a ray of hope; otherwise, we would not put the dog through this. If the cancer returns, then we will have to make the decision all over again. Shelly's age also entered into our decision, as she was a rescue and no one know her exact age. We estimated her to be 8 to 9. How much longer could she live with successful treatment?

—Roger Sullivan

The Art of Living with Shelties



Buddy: Before and after a bad clip job, and then into the repair shop

Groomer's Goof Daze and Clip Joints

Our Facebook page turned up a new friend in Sumrall, MS. It turns out she is a groomer as well as a Sheltie mom. We sent her the groomer's goof pictures above, and she sent us the following article: "My name is Linda McClelland, and I have been a dog groomer since 1996. Here are a few tips for grooming your Sheltie:

"Please don't shave your Sheltie. Sheltie coats protect them; they keep them warm in the winter and guard against sun damage in the summer (they can sunburn just like humans). And it may take years (if ever) for the coat to return to normal after it has been shaved.

"Brush your Sheltie's coat regularly [at least once or twice a week for a few minutes at a time] with a pin brush or slicker. Most

Shelties enjoy being brushed if it is done regularly and gently. Regular brushing cuts down on shedding and helps condition Sheltie coats, keeping them

from matting. And don't forget to brush their teeth. There are canine tooth brushes and toothpastes available from pet supply stores and vets. Make sure you only use toothpaste made for dogs because the human ones have sweeteners that can be toxic to dogs. Start by introducing the brush and paste to your Sheltie



a little at a time, and then build up to where you can brush for at least a minute a couple times a week at least.

“Next is the bath. Shelties need to be bathed and groomed about every 6-8 weeks if they spend a lot of time outside. They get dirty and can get itchy from grasses and pollens. If they don’t spend a lot of time outside, they can go longer between groomings. You should use a shampoo that fits your Sheltie’s coat and skin type. [There are plenty of good dog shampoos and cream rinses available; we recommend avoiding those with tea tree oil which can be toxic.] Massage the shampoo to the skin to make sure the Sheltie gets its full benefit. Your Sheltie should love the massage! You should also clean around the Sheltie’s private areas using warm water and mild soap. [Baby Shampoo is great for delicate areas and can even be used on the face and around their eyes.] Don’t forget to clean the inside of their ears with ear wash for dogs [available from any good pet supply store or vet] and then dry the inside of the ears with cotton balls or a washrag. Make sure you rinse the coat very well so that there is no residual soap scum, then towel it dry. Most professional groomers use force dryers. This hurries along the drying process and blows out loose hair. If your Sheltie hates the dryer, you can put them in a kennel with a dry towel and put a fan on them to reduce their stress level. When your Sheltie is dry, always brush and comb their coat [using a pin brush and comb] to clear and prevent any matting. The hair should be back brushed, not just smoothed over, so that the undercoat is

brushed. Mist the coat with a spray bottle as it is being brushed. This keeps the coat from breaking.

“I generally clip and/or dremmel toenails before the bath, but I do any necessary trimming on the coat after their bath when the fur is clean. As to clipping toenails, it’s better to take off too little than too much, because you can cause them to bleed if you cut into the quick. You can see where the blood supply comes down into the toenail, but this is easier in light-colored toenails than in dark or black ones. Shelties should have the fur between their paw pads trimmed out, and you should use your trimming shears to trim the fur around the edges of their feet to make them look neat. You can do a light trim of their pantaloons and skirt using thinning shears just to make them look tidy and to create a clear area (poop chute) so that nothing clings to the fur under their tail. If the hair on and around the edges of their ears is too long and/or scraggly, you can use thinning shears to shorten it some so it will look natural and/or you can use regular grooming shears to make straight-cut edges around the ears. That trimming defines their ears more distinctly and is most often used on ears that stand up.

“The most important thing is to talk to your Sheltie throughout its grooming. It’s a great bonding experience and makes the grooming processes more enjoyable for the dog as well as for the groomer. A nice treat helps too. Above all, patience and love are the two prime ingredients in grooming. Happy grooming to all your beautiful Shelties.”

—Linda McClelland

Recent (and not-so-recent) Adoptions

Letting go may be the most difficult task we face as humans. We foster parents try to tell each other that a foster dog going to a new home doesn’t mean we are losing a furkid, but that we are “gaining a family.” Sometimes, letting go just doesn’t work and the fosterling sticks—as in the case of three of our core volunteers, Tonya, Nancy, and Dianne, with the three “Shelteranians” (Greta, Redford, and Newman) they each fostered after these Sheltie/Pom crosses and their seventy+ siblings were rescued from a feral life on a ranch in Montana in 2010. Norcal Sheltie Rescue took in six; three of them “stuck.” We all tease each other when one of us “fails foster mom” (the FFM Club of which most of us



—Vicki Jones

A Foster Dog Poem

by Diane Morgan

I am the bridge
Between what was and what can be.
I am the pathway to a new life.

I am made of mush,
Because my heart melted when I saw you,
Matted and sore, limping, depressed,
Lonely, unwanted, afraid to love.

For one little time you are mine.
I will feed you with my own hand
I will love you with my whole heart
I will make you whole.
I am made of steel.

Because when the time comes,
When you are well, and sleek,
When your eyes shine,
And your tail wags with joy
Then comes the hard part.

I will let you go -- not without a tear,
But without a regret.
For you are safe forever—
A new dog needs me now.



Misty was raised from puppyhood by a couple who doted on her. Reluctantly, they moved into assisted living and had to give her up. We placed her in a "foster-to-adopt" home with Steve and Eileen. Three days later they told us they wanted to adopt her. Misty came to us up-to-date with all vaccinations, in excellent health, in good weight, with wonderful manners and a lovely disposition. What more could one ask?



The smiles on the faces of his family and sweet little Bear speak volumes. This is definitely a match made in Heaven for the scruffy little Sheltie covered in mats and burrs, roaming the streets looking for anyone to save him, to now having his own family, a warm bed, good food and treats, toys, and all the love he will ever want or need—forever. Bear is an extra special, very gentle, and extremely loving Sheltie who has been cherished by the angel family that found him, by his foster mom and dog sitters, and by the family who adopted him.



Sweet Gidget Marie (the tri on the left) settled in her forever home at the end of April 2012. She lives with her big brother, Chester, and her sister Rosie, the cat, who weighs more than her! Gidget spends most of her day playing with Chester and sometimes with Rosie. Chester is so

happy to have his little sister to run around the yard with and to play a good game of tug-a-war, and pretty soon she will be running around the agility course with him. We are so happy to have Gidget in our family!"

—Pam Silva

Ace, a friendly, outgoing, playful guy, was adopted to a quiet home with Courtney and her Sheltie, Raleigh. After living with a family of six children, he had developed some anxious behaviors and needed to unwind from his herding responsibilities. He found a very loving home.



Ten-year-old Lady was surrendered to us when her owner entered a nursing home. Lady came to us about ten pounds overweight and very afraid of people she did not know. She needed a family that would not only be willing to take the time to gain her trust, but who could also be sure to give her a daily exercise routine. Molly and her son, Taelor, needed to fill the void left when their Sheltie, Lily, went to the Bridge. They saw Lady on our website, and the rest is history. Molly, a teacher, and Taelor, a college student had the summer off and were able to take the time to socialize Lady, who is now walking proudly in parks and along the Napa River Trail with Molly and Taelor without shying away from other people and their dogs.



Bonnie is a nine-year-old, very sweet girl whose owner wanted a better life than she was able to give her because of working long hours and living in an apartment. Irene fell in love with her instantly and Bonnie now has a lovely yard to run in and a companion who's home with her during the day.

Bailey was surrendered by his owner's relatives when the owner was faced with a serious illness. This boy was raised in a loving home and was well cared for in every aspect. He went into a "foster-to-adopt" home with Cheri and Steve, who nurtured him through the adjustment period. It wasn't long until they decided to adopt him, and Bailey is now enjoying life with his canine sister on his beautiful, rural property.



Woody came into rescue as a stray. After neutering, housebreaking, and training in basic manners, he found his permanent home with Steve. He gets a great deal of affection and attention in his new environment and he is relishing his new life.





Another case of "it was meant to be": Pauly was rescued from the San Martin Shelter by Jeff and Jackie, who agreed to foster for us and shortly thereafter adopted him. Jackie had seen Pauly in the shelter when he first came in. A week after

Pauly was given back to the owner, NorCal Collie Rescue got a call that some people had a Collie to surrender. Lauren from Collie Rescue went to pick him up and was surprised when she walked into the house to see that it was Pauly these folks were giving up. Lauren had also met Pauly in the San Martin shelter when it was determined he was a Sheltie, not a Collie. Lauren from Norcal Collie Rescue called NorCal Sheltie Rescue about this "Collie," and the rest is history.

Pauly sleeps next to his companion, Sunny, a Golden Retriever, at night. "Another family who loves and has both Golden and Shelties," according to our Adoption Coordinator, Terry Gary, who has always had both.



It's been two years since Duchess (aka Sarah) adopted me. I hope you remember us. Lady Duchess is doing so well...and I love her dearly. She's my shadow; goes just about everywhere with me. She's a bit of a diva. Doesn't care much for other female dogs, but the males are okay with her. I recently had another Sheltie stay here with us while her family went on vacation. I'm attaching a few photos of Duchess and Jessie. Duchess was a little bent out of shape having to share attention. She continues to "herd" the little dogs at the dog park. People can't believe she's 8 years old. As you can tell, we're well matched. She's added so much to my life. Thank you again for fostering her [Deborah] and making it possible for me to get such a wonderful companion.

—Ellen Anderson

Millie came into rescue as a five-month-old pup, from an owner who didn't have time to work with her. Jeremiah and Rebecca stepped up to foster her, then decided to adopt her. She's getting lots of training, including herding, and she's a playful and loving youngster who brings joy everywhere she goes.



Chase was a young stray whose history was unknown. Misidentified as a purebred Sheltie, he came into our rescue program and decided he belonged with us. He quickly charmed everyone around him with his energy, playfulness, and affection. His hobbies

include going for walks, doing zoomies in the yard, playing fetch, cavorting with canine companions, and snuggling with humans. He was in foster care for only 18 days before Laura and Steve adopted him. He's now going to school and thriving as a model dog. Best of all, he continues to be the ultimate lap dog, as sweet and loving a dog as ever existed.

Lady (formerly Willow) and Bandit (formerly Panda), Sheltie mixes, came into rescue as strays picked up by separate animal shelters. Both had fairly good manners and had obviously lived comfortably with families.



Lady (Willow) and Bandit (Panda)

Lady was adopted by Monica and family, as a companion to the children and to Shadow, the resident Sheltie. After losing Shadow, Monica saw Panda on our website and asked to meet him. It was love at first sight, and Panda (now Bandit due to his thievery) joined this wonderful home.

30 April 2012

Dear Sheltie Rescue:

My name is Susan Andersson. I adopted a Sheltie from you back in March 2000. His name was Arthur- we re named him Carey after the Joni Mitchell song.

Carey has brought us over 12 years of joy and laughter. He has more personality than any person or pet that I can think of! And what an athlete! He runs everyday- either with our husky or with me or just by himself in the backyard. His favorite sport is running at the Long Beach dog beach (we moved to LA in 2005). At 14 years old he can out run any dog at the beach. I am enclosing his beach video and a few shots of him.

Thank you for such a wonderful HEALTHY Sheltie boy! He is truly a joy and a lesson to all of us in AMAZING AGING! I bet he makes it to 20!!



Rainbow Bridge 2012



Tanner, Rescued From A Shelter in February of 2010, died 20 April 2012

Never tell me you cannot bond deeply with an older dog

Tanner was the most beautiful Sheltie, both inside and out, who has shared my life. The journey we shared for just over two years ended suddenly this April. One knows when one rescues and adopts an older dog that you will have less time with them than with a puppy who grows old with you. My two years with Tanner could have been twenty. We bonded deeply from the moment I pulled him from the shelter with his filthy coat of dreadlocks, only four remaining teeth left that were so rotted they jutted outwards like tusks, cysts behind his ears, unneutered and with an enlarged prostate that caused urine leakage constantly. He was also diagnosed with a heart murmur. This dog would not have made it out of the shelter alive, but he was gorgeous, and I wanted to give him a chance.

NorCal Sheltie Rescue paid to have Tanner neutered, his last teeth pulled, cyst removed. I sent him to my groomer on day two, and as a former Sheltie breeder, she immediately agreed he was a well-bred dog, beautiful to boot. At the time, I wondered what I was in for as Tanner's foster mom. But once he had his surgical procedures, he healed into the most gentle, kind and loving, beautiful Sheltie boy. I always called him my 'eye candy.' He became totally housebroken after his prostate healed and never caused a problem to anyone. He learned hand signals for his hearing impairment, and all he wanted was to please, please, please. You had only to look into Tanner's eyes and see the wise and gentle soul that he was. Within a few weeks, I knew Tanner had found his last home.

I have fostered and adopted other elderly dogs. I have a soft spot for those that others deem past redemption. But Tanner was special. It doesn't matter that I only had two years with him. I know that I gave him probably the best two years of his life. Yes, I made a difference in this dog's life, but oh, what a difference he made in mine! Yes, I have cried, felt saddened, and grieved. But no differently than I have for those I've had since puppyhood.

The older ones seem so grateful when they are rescued and given a new start, for however long that new adventure lasts.

The next time you hesitate when you hear the age of one of our older rescues, consider that you are giving it its last home...its last opportunity to be loved and to love. It is an honor to provide the seniors of our world a safe environment to rest their head and hearts. And it can fill you with a sense of purpose for something greater than yourself.

My Tanner taught me a lot in two years. And although I lost a dear friend, he will never leave my heart. My heart has room for more and in time, there will be another, and its age will not be the determiner of whether he comes home with me or not. Tanner taught me well. I was blessed to have been loved by him and be his 'person'. He always came to me, lowering his head to be petted – so gentle, never forceful or dominant. Oh, how I will miss this lovely boy. I learned from Tanner what unconditional love is all about.

—Tonya Kraft



Desi was in deplorable condition and had had a rotten existence before he came to us to live out what turned out to be his last months in foster care. His foster mom put a monumental effort into nursing him back from all of his health issues,

but it turned out that he had liver cancer on top of all his other ailments. Desi went peacefully to the Bridge in July.

Chip (1995-June 16, 2012) was the oddest looking duckling, but precious even with his crankiness. When I think how he was passed around from rescue group to rescue group, and came with bite wounds from being attacked by other foster dogs, it's a wonder he did as well as he did in his old age. He would annoy all the dogs in my house by going up to them, staring them in the face, tail wagging. He wanted to clean their faces and only Greta tolerated it. Fortunately, all he ever got here were growls that he couldn't hear.

—Tonya Kraft





Gail Cho brought senior girl, Lucy, to our parade the time it rained. We lost this sweet old girl the day after she made an appearance at our May 2012 picnic. Gail wrote: “Lucy, born May 1996 and died peacefully 16 years later on May 21, 2012. She leaves behind a grieving Gail who was blessed with almost four years of Lucy’s friendship and companionship. Lucy was surrendered to be euthanized after her first owner passed away, but the veterinarian recognized a beautiful sheltie that had many more years of life left. By way of the Norcal Sheltie Rescue team and Angela, Lucy became my confidante and companion when I needed her most. She joined me on adventures and we went on our own private dates. So many humans became fans of the big, blue merle with a big heart and sense of humor to match that my email box and social website are filled with Lucy-remembrances. I am thankful for every minute that we spent together but I’d give up a fortune to be able to give her a hug and a treat once more. Goodbye Lucy, I know that you are making the other dogs and the Maker laugh on the other side of the Rainbow Bridge. Save a few jokes for me.”



Willow came to me on that first night a lost and broken little soul, almost totally blind and deaf, flea bitten and missing half her fur, scared and alone, but she left this world last night surrounded by the people who loved her most and who she shared her life with and

gave her love to. Goodbye Sweet Willow, may you run free until we see you again some day!

—Karen Porter

Written by Liliane Morin and sent to Karen Porter, foster mom, for Melissa, who adopted and loved Willow.

WILLOW - IN MEMORIAM

When God calls our pets
To dwell with Him above
We mortals always question
The wisdom of His love.
For no heartache compares
With the death of man's best friend
Who does so much to make this world
Seem bright until the end.

Perhaps God tires calling
Only humans to His fold
And so He chooses innocence
Instead of us, grown old.
God knows how much we need them
And so He takes them too
To make the land of Heaven
More beautiful to view.

Believing this is difficult
Still somehow we must try
The saddest word that mankind knows
Will always be good-bye.
And so, when our friends depart,
We who are left behind
Must realize how much God loves our pets
For angels are hard to find.



Britt (12/1999—6/2012) succumbed to old age after giving me seven wonderful, loyal years. It is because of her that I became involved in fostering for

NorCal Sheltie Rescue. She was such a wonderful dog, and I wanted others to have the same experience. I was privileged to adopt her from her breeder, Lourie, when she was five years old. It took some time and lots of treats, patience and determination to get her to warm up to my family, but, once she did, she wouldn't leave my side for anything. She was very regal (I believe she knew how gorgeous she was, being a past show champion) and while she was reserved with strangers, she was very nosy at the same time! Fetch was her game — she could play for hours. “Breakfast,” “Dinner” and “Biscuit” were always her favorite words! She was quirky, sweet, smart, and beautiful as all get out, and I miss her so terribly. I like to think she lived a very long, happy and “spoiled” life, between her time with Lourie and with me. Now she has been joined by Rosie at the Rainbow Bridge, where they both wait for me. Rest in peace, my Queen!

—Angela Nuno

Buddy’s human mom had died suddenly, and so he came to us at the behest of his family. In doing the regular intake vet exams, we discovered that Buddy had thyroid cancer. Buddy lived out his last months basking in all the fun, love, and spoiling that his hospice foster family, Camille and Bob, and his new Sheltie brother, Myles, could offer him.



Events for 2012

The Rescue Parade and Raffle are coming!!

Saturday, October 20, 2012

Shetland Sheepdog Club of Northern California Speciality

Harvest Moon Classic Dog Show Cluster

Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton, CA

Check the events page on our website for details and directions



Woofstock, Rocklin, CA
August 26, 2012



Annual Sheltie Picnic, Saturday, May 19, 2012, at
Performance Dogs In Action, North Sacramento
(www.performancedogsinaction.com)



UC Davis Picnic Day
Saturday, April 21, 2012



Annual Fourth of July Sheltie Romp, Woodside, CA

Youtube videos:

Sheltie Romp, July 4, 2012 (by Greg Hughes)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K4yQcr3FJ-A&feature=related>

Sheltie Romp, July 4, 2011 (by Diane Keitz)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7zPa_SzS22E&feature=related

Dollars and Sense of Rescue

(And how you can help)

Our unpaid volunteers welcome into their homes Shelties who have lost their families for a variety of reasons. Volunteers provide them with food at their own cost; exercise and train them; conduct temperament testing; and ensure that they see the veterinarian for any medical care they need—all in an effort to prepare them for adoption. *All donations are used exclusively to help cover veterinary expenses, which include vet exams, vaccinations, lab tests, spays and neuters, dental cleanings/extractions, and any other necessary medical procedures.* We need your financial support to do this. You can send a check made out to NorCal Sheltie Rescue to Gale Ann Morris at P. O. Box 581934, Elk Grove, CA 95758 or donate directly through a link to PayPal on our website. Please know that no donation is too small. If anyone has questions, Sheltie Rescue is listed on GuideStar, a website that provides a list of legitimate nonprofit organizations. On behalf of the Shelties who cannot speak for themselves, thank you for your support.

\$500 grant from Woofstock August 19, 2012

Jim Crosthwaite, President
FirstStep Sports Marketing Group

Dear Jim:

We are thrilled to have been selected as one of the beneficiaries of the 2012 Woofstock event in Rocklin. This award will help offset the costs of the heartworm treatments for the four Shelties we rescued in March of this year. Fortunately, the prognosis is excellent for all four dogs and we look forward to adopting them out within the next two months.

All our volunteers at NorCal Sheltie Rescue join me in thanking you for this generous award. We look forward to meeting you at Woofstock.

Sincerely,

Teresa Gary
Intake/Adoption Coordinator
NorCal Sheltie Rescue

NorCal Sheltie Rescue Apparel for You and Your Sheltie

NorCal Sheltie Rescue has embroidered logo items in 19 styles of t-shirts, shirts, vests, and coats in assorted colors (see “Rescue Logo Prices 2012” on our website). You can order logo items by emailing Nancy Berry at nberry@citlink.net, or phoning her at 916-801-5541. We also now have a new wholesale account with the Thundershirt Company for calming shirts and calming caps. Contact Gale Ann Morris (sheltieroses@frontiernet.net) if you would like to order or know more about these items.

Antlerz4Rescue

The link on our website (www.antlerz4dogz.com/rescue) is for high-quality, safe, deer-antler chews. We receive a percentage of from the sales. Our webmistress, Barbara, is a distributor and asked that we enter into this agreement, which costs us nothing and is a benefit to all.

Cars4Causes

This vehicle/motorhome/boat donation program came to Gale Ann’s attention when someone donated her old car to Cars4Causes in the name of our rescue. Voila! We received a \$934 donation! Sweet! This is why their logo has found its way to our website, and we would like to encourage our supporters to remember us when disposing of an unwanted vehicle.

Friends in High Places

Peg Munves runs STEP IN TIME TRAINING LLC, a NYC training and behavioral service. A versatile trainer and an APDT and UKC Rally judge, Peg is also a lead trainer, handler, and talent agent for a large NY area animal talent agency. Peg has been on hundreds of sets and handled multiple dogs.

She is spending most of October in Northern California this year, judging trials and working on performance and obedience training with noted trainer Michael Ellis. She contacted us through one of our local friends to see if we could find her a rescue dog in foster care that she could use as a partner for this workshop and then return to us, well trained and ready for a forever home. In conjunction with this wonderful offer, she made a very generous donation to NorCal Sheltie Rescue—and earned herself a new batch of devoted friends on the West Coast. To learn more about Peg Munves and her Jazz, her awesome yellow Lab, visit her website: <http://www.panix.com/~pmunves/>





SPECIAL FRIENDS

Below is a list of veterinarians and clinics around Northern California that our core volunteers and foster homes used to care for our rescue Shelties. Some offer a very nice discount to NorCal Sheltie Rescue for the care of our Shelties, all are experts in every aspect of Sheltie (and Collie Family) health issues, vets who have helped us in special ways, or those who have gone beyond the call in caring for the creatures we love. If you have a wonderful vet to recommend to your fellow Sheltie family members, please share their contact information with us.

VETERINARY CLINIC

Adobe Animal Hospital
 Airport Pet Clinic
 Animal Clinic of Benecia
 Animal Hospital of Sebastopol
 Animal Wellness Center
 Blue Oak Veterinary Hospital
 Bradshaw Veterinary Clinic
 Cirby Ridge Animal Hospital
 Coastside Veterinary Clinic

LOCATION

Los Altos
 Cameron Park
 Benecia
 Sebastopol
 Davis
 Jackson
 Elk Grove
 Roseville
 Half Moon Bay

VETERINARY CLINIC

Cool Animal Hospital
 CritterCare Mobile Veterinary Clinic
 Devotion Animal Hospital
 Meridian Veterinary Care
 Missouri Flat Pet Clinic
 Northpointe Veterinary Hospital
 PetCare Veterinary Hospital
 Standiford Veterinary Center
 Waterhouse Animal Hospital

LOCATION

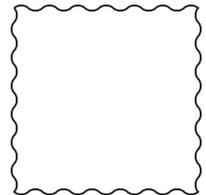
Cool
 Truckee
 Santa Rosa
 Fair Oaks
 Placerville
 Yuba City
 Santa Rosa
 Modesto
 Fresno

Our mailing lists have lots of blanks and/or defunct e-mail addresses. Please make sure to update your e-mail and US mail addresses with us, and please ask other Sheltie families you encounter to do the same. Thank you for staying in touch with NorCal Sheltie Rescue ([http:// www.norcalsheltierescue.org](http://www.norcalsheltierescue.org)).

— *Gale Ann Morris* (sheltieroses@frontiernet.net)



NorCal Sheltie Rescue
 P. O. Box 581934
 Elk Grove, CA 95758



FIRST CLASS MAIL
 ADDRESS CORRECTION AND
 FORWARDING REQUESTED